

OLL 84-1118
21 March 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: C/PCS/PGL

ATTENTION:

FROM:



STAT

Office of Legislative Liaison/Liaison Division

SUBJECT: SSCI Request on Narcotics Trafficking and
Nicaragua

Per our conversation, attached is the article from the March 23 edition of National Review concerning Nicaraguan involvement in drug trafficking. A copy has been sent to DDI for their action; however, it would be appreciated if you would see if further information is available in the DO.



STAT

/Senate Liaison

Attachment

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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

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84- 0995

MEMORANDUM

TO: CIA

FROM: PETER SULLIVAN, SSCI *PS*

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING AND NICARAGUA

DATE: MARCH 20, 1984

STAT

Attached is an article from the March 23 edition of National Review concerning Nicaraguan involvement in drug trafficking. Would appreciate your checking to see what the Agency has on these allegations and reporting back to us.

Thanks.

Attachment

has the military capabilities necessary to stop shipping out of the Gulf for very long, and neither is likely to try it given the presence of a U.S. carrier battle group in the region. At times like this, however, one can be grateful that it is Reagan, and not his predecessor, who stands behind the doctrine that bears the latter's name.

Edén Pastora, who once sprung Tomás Borge from prison during the Nicaraguan revolution, has lately been announcing over his rebel radio, Voice of Sandino, the shady doings of his former comrade-in-arms, who is now Nicaragua's Interior Minister. In a February broadcast, the pesky Comandante Cero reported Borge's Panamanian bank-account number. For the curious, it is #159-80027-D at the Banco de Santander in Panama City, and the deposits are from cocaine trafficking. By now, though, the charge is humdrum. In July 1983 Canadian police arrested Rodolfo Palacios Talavera, the First Secretary at the Nicaraguan Embassy, for toting an unregistered pistol and \$10,000 worth of cocaine in his briefcase. After a bitter Nicaraguan protest claiming diplomatic immunity, Palacios informed authorities that Tomás Borge had arranged through an aide for Colombians to use Corn Island off Nicaragua's Atlantic Coast as a relay stop on the way to the United States. The linchpin of the entire operation is one Carlos Enrique Lehder Rivas, a 34-year-old Colombian who is an admirer of Adolf Hitler and is worth in excess of \$270 million. Lehder, founder of the National Latin Civic Movement in Colombia, has been linked with Robert Vesco. The young Lehder is known to bestow gifts of private planes upon those valuable to his operation. Last year he gave planes to Daniel Ortega, Tomás Borge, and Fidel Castro. Curiously, Lehder sums up his political philosophy by declaring, "An incorrect image has been spread of Hitler's Germany."

And from *The New Yorker*: The official Soviet news agency, TASS, widely admired for its light touch, reports as follows: "Miners in the Yakutia Republic of eastern Siberia have found a 95-karat diamond of 'rare beauty' and named it 'The 80th Anniversary of the Second Session of the RSDWP,' after the second meeting of the Russian Social Democratic Workers' Party in 1903, at which Russian revolutionary Vladimir I. Lenin formed his Bolshevik movement." We thought you'd like to know.

The debate over hiring quotas moved to a new level January 16. That was when the chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, William Bennett, announced that his agency was refusing to comply with a directive of the Equal Employment

Speaking of Amnesia

He promised the moon in New Hampshire,
While in the conservative South
He summons the stars and the planets
To somersault out of his mouth.
Lane Kirkland anticipates heaven;
For teachers, he's cash in the bank.
Imagine the howls, if elected,
When President Mondale goes blank.

W. H. VON DREELE

Opportunity Commission requiring each federal agency to set numerical goals in filling jobs, whether or not it had ever discriminated in the past. Instead, Bennett vowed to continue a policy of color-blind and sex-blind hiring. What is most notable is not that one government agency should defy another, but that the revolt should begin at the NEH. The arts and humanities endowments, more than the rest of Washington, like to talk about rewarding pure, abstract merit for its own sake. But as Ronald Berman recounts in his new book, *Culture and Politics*, the two endowments have fought a losing battle against political pressures to bend their grants toward equality of result: to support "senior citizens' art" instead of the most brilliant artists, and to allocate money for historical research evenly among regions so that Massachusetts doesn't get more than its share just because it has Harvard. Now that merit in hiring is back in favor, merit in culture may not be far behind.

The Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C., has come up with a promising idea and is holding fortnightly "Third Generation" meetings, each of them featuring an under-thirty conservative leader as speaker. All strands of conservative thought have been represented. After the speaker's opening remarks, lively discussions take place. The meetings have been well attended by conservatives of all ages. The speeches will be collected into a volume after a year or so. NR contributors Walter Olson and Dinesh D'Souza have participated as speakers.

When you do a good job, word gets out. A short while ago Father Bryan Hehir received a medal from the leftist Institute for Policy Studies for his "behind-the-scenes" work on the American Catholic bishops' pastoral letter on nuclear weapons. Now comes the news that the trendy MacArthur Foundation has named Father Hehir as one of the recipients of its "no-strings-attached" awards. Though the foundation